CLAIMS

1. A method of detecting and removing unstripped residual shell left on shellfish, characterized by irradiating light of specific wave-range onto stripped shellfish after finishing a shell-stripping work thereof, and on the basis of information on the intensity of fluorescent light emitted from the shellfish, determing if there is residual shell on the stripped shellfish and subsequently removing any residual shell.

2. A method of detecting and removing unstripped residual shell left on shellfish, characterized by irradiating light of specific wave-range onto stripped shellfish after finishing the shell-stripping work thereof, taking an image of the stripped shellfish with a CCD camera, and on the basis of information on the intensity of fluorescent light emitted from the fetched image of shellfish, determining if there is residual shell on the stripped shellfish and subsequently removing any residual shell.

3. The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said shellfish is "shrimp", and said wave-range of the light is not more than 400nm, more preferably around 250nm.

4. The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said shellfish is "crab", and said wave-range of the light is not more than 400nm.

5. An apparatus for detecting and removing unstripped residual shell left on shellfish, said apparatus comprising; a means for irradiating light of specific wave-range onto stripped shellfish after finishing the shell-stripping work thereof; detection means for detecting a fluorescent light emitted from said shellfish; a means for determining if there is left a residual shell of

the shellfish on the stripped shellfish on the basis of information obtained from said detection means; and means for removing any residual shell on the basis of information from said determining means.

6. An apparatus for detecting and removing unstripped residual shell left on shellfish, said apparatus comprising; a means for irradiating a light of specific wave-range onto stripped shellfish after finishing the shell-stripping work thereof; a CCD camera disposed to face said stripped shellfish; a means for determining if there is residual shell on the stripped shellfish on the basis of information on the intensity of fluorescent light that can be obtained from the image taken by said CCD camera; and means for removing any residual shell on the basis of information from said determining means.

7. The apparatus according to claim 5 or 6, wherein said shellfish is "shrimp", and said the wave-range of the light is not more than 400nm, more preferably around 250nm.

8. The apparatus according to claim 5 or 6, wherein said shellfish is "crab", and said the wave-range of the light is not more than 400nm.